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REPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1897.

REPORT OF THE OFFICERS OF THE BOARD.

SUBMITTED TO THE TRUSTEES JANUARY 12, 1898.

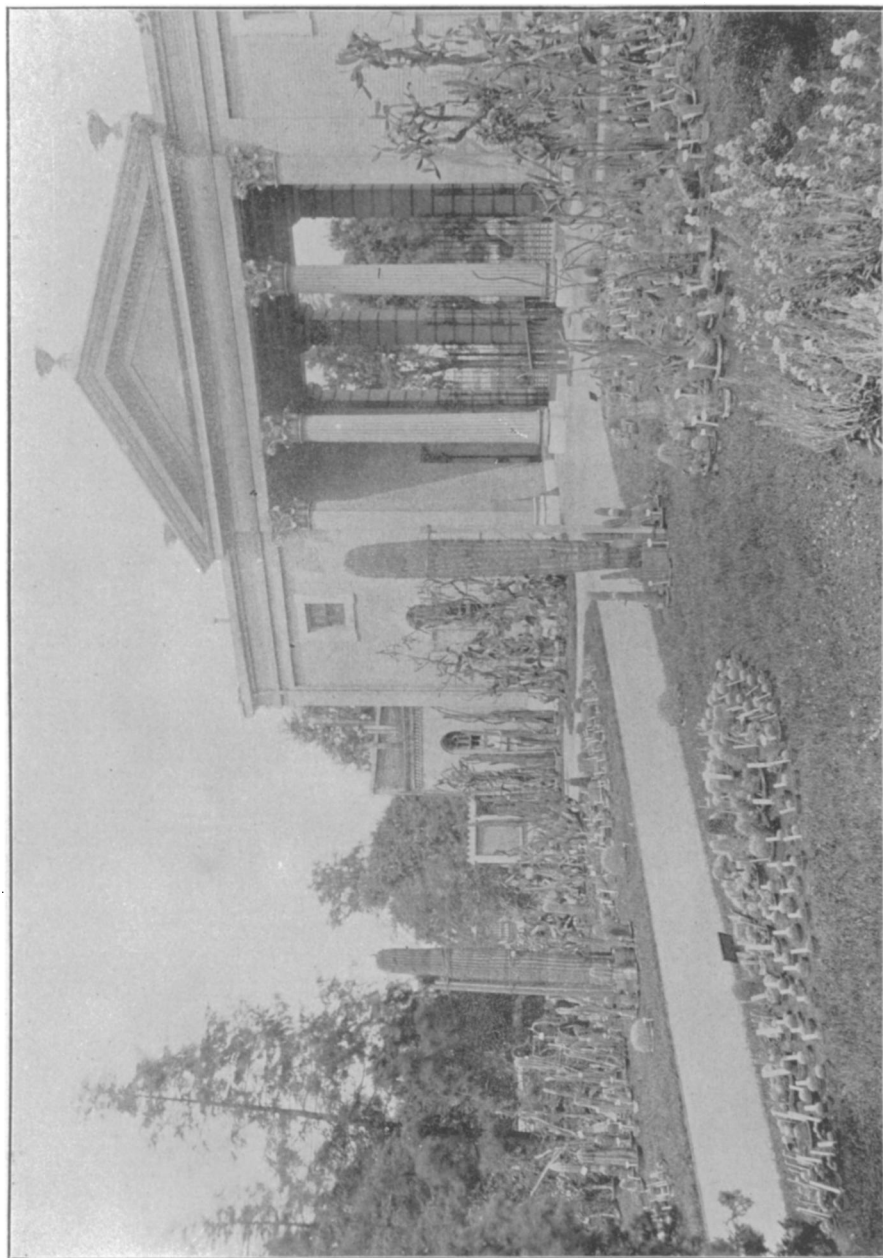
To the Board of Trustees of the Missouri Botanical Garden:

We herewith present the financial results for the year ending December 31st, 1897. Our income from rentals shows an increase of \$826.13 over those of 1896, notwithstanding several vacancies have existed throughout the entire year caused by a change in conditions, but they are mostly small buildings, and the loss of income from them is more than overcome by increased rentals in other sections.

Extensive alterations and repairs have been made to several buildings which have been leased for a term of years, and all properties of the Board are now in fairly good condition.

The application for power to sell certain non-productive properties west of Grand avenue, mention of which was made in our last report, is still pending in the Supreme Court of the State of Missouri, having been argued in October last, and an early decision is looked for.

Last spring ordinances were introduced and passed authorizing the opening and widening of Flora avenue from Grand to Tower Grove avenue, a distance of 4,438 feet, to a width of one hundred and forty feet, to be improved with driveways on either side of a park place in the center. This street is to be fully improved with granitoid curb, gutters and sidewalk, and telford pavement, with



THE MAIN GATE.

sewers, gas and water service, trees, shubbery, etc. The work is now under way, being done by private contract, and when completed in the spring this will be the finest residence street in the city, and practically the Grand avenue entrance to the Garden. These improvements will cost the Board about fifty thousand dollars for its share of the property running the full distance on the north side, which will be paid for out of the surplus accumulations of several years; and should the Board be empowered to sell, this property will be the first to be offered.

The opportunity was offered the Board last spring of purchasing a triangular piece of ground of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres adjoining and southwest of the Garden property, admitting of an extension of the Garden along Magnolia avenue on the south to Alfred avenue on the west. The acquisition of this property was recommended by the Messrs. F. L. and J. C. Olmsted, the landscape architects who have charge of the proposed addition to the Garden, and it was secured at a cost of ten thousand dollars, a reasonable price considering its desirability.

Large and valuable additions have been made to the Library and Herbarium, both by purchase and donation, and the following sums have been credited to the stock account as a permanent investment, which now aggregates \$1,547,497.24:—

Books, purchased and donated.....	\$7,188 79
Herbarium “ “ “	2,980 10
Plant House.....	7,496 93
	<hr/>
	\$17,665 82

Mr. Shaw's bequests for banquets, sermon, premiums for flower show and Shaw School of Botany have all been carried out as provided for in his will, and after caring for the Garden in a liberal manner, keeping properties of the Board in good repair and fully insured, and the payment of taxes, all out of the revenue of the year, we are enabled to carry forward as a surplus for the year, \$2,252.26.

RECEIPTS.

Rents	\$95,417 67	
Interest and dividends.....	6,558 50	
Garden, pasturage, sales, etc.....	486 07	
Garden handbook sales	69 75	
Publication sales.....	2 38	\$102,534 37
Stock Account, loan collected	1,750 00	
Streets, damages for opening and widening ...	56,253 00	
Buildings, damages for removal.....	850 00	
Certificates of deposits cashed.....	168,064 27	226,917 27
		<hr/>
		\$329,451 64
Cash balance January 1st, 1897.....		6 35
		<hr/>
Total.....		<u>\$329,457 99</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Garden Account,		
Labor pay-roll.....	\$12,407 36	
Students' pay-roll....	1,583 10	
Office assistance	587 69	
Fuel.....	383 21	
Water	208 00	
Repairs and supplies.....	1,981 42	
Stable and implements.....	562 13	
Plants and seeds.....	1,486 22	\$19,199 13
Herbarium,		
Office assistance and Janitor	380 07	
Extra mounting.....	210 57	
Fuel	76 15	
Current expenditure and specimens.....	4,232 01	4,898 80
Library,		
Office assistance	875 17	
Fuel	76 15	
Current expenditure.....	5,814 72	6,766 04
Office,		
Salaries.....	4,268 84	
Telephone.....	95 00	
Fuel	76 24	
Current expenditure.....	359 07	4,799 15
Research,		
Salaries.....	1,171 94	
Current expenditure.....	11 40	1,183 34
Carried forward.....		<hr/>
		\$36,846 46

<i>Brought forward</i>		\$36,846 46
Scholarship,		
Instruction.....	\$399 77	
Care of Lodge.....	240 00	
Fuel.....	53 44	
Current expenditure.....	131 51	824 72
Garden Improvement,		
Plant house.....	7,496 93	
Plans for extension, granitoid walks, grading, etc.....	2,704 41	
Addition to Garden, purchased.....	10,000 00	20,201 34
Total for Garden.....		\$57,872 52
Publication Account,		
Annual volume.....	\$1,992 96	
Catalogue of library.....	1,424 08	3,417 04
Property Expenses,		
Taxes, State, School, City and Sprinkling....	24,899 54	
Streets, pavements and sewers.....	31,907 54	
Insurance.....	5,235 18	
Repairs.....	9,181 07	
Commission.....	500 00	
New improvements.....	1,400 67	73,124 00
Office Account,		
Salaries.....	3,600 00	
Rent of Office.....	835 00	
Printing, postage and telephone.....	465 19	4,900 19
Bequests,		
Flower Show.....	498 00	
Flower Sermon.....	200 00	
Trustees' Banquet.....	990 05	
Gardeners' Banquet.....	456 30	
Washington University, School of Botany....	1,012 05	3,156 40
Sundries,		
Legal expenses.....	569 50	
Grading property.....	9,706 90	
Real estate purchased.....	6,593 75	
Streets, benefits for opening and widening...	40,216 95	57,087 10
		\$199,557 25
Certificates of deposits invested in 1897.....		71,491 86
Cash on hand Dec. 31, 1897.....		58,408 88
Total.....		\$329,457 99

The books of the Board have been closed, showing the operations for the year ending December 31st, 1897, and after charging to Real Estate Account the balance of Streets, Pavements and Sewers Account, \$25,578.39, the income has been disposed of as follows:—

Rent Account.....	\$95,417 67	
Interest.....	6,558 50	
Garden Handbook	69 75	\$102,045 92

CONTRA.

Garden Expense.....	\$37,185 11	
Office Expense.....	4,900 19	
Commission	500 00	
Repairs.....	9,181 07	
Insurance	5,235 18	
Taxes.....	24,899 54	
New Improvements....	550 67	
Legal Expense.....	569 50	
Washington University.....	1,012 05	
Annual Flower Sermon.....	200 00	
Annual Trustees' Banquet.....	990 05	
Annual Gardeners' Banquet.....	456 30	
Annual Flower Show.....	498 00	
Publications.....	3,414 66	
Garden Improvements	10,201 34	
Surplus for the Year.....	2,252 26	
		<hr/>
		\$102,045 92
Surplus to Dec. 31st, 1896.....		\$73,824 84
Surplus for 1897.....		2,252 26
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Total Surplus.....		\$76,077 10

Respectfully submitted,

R. J. LACKLAND, President.

Attest:

A. D. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary.